Service Date: July 18, 1984

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

* * *

IN THE MATTER OF The Application)
Of The GREAT FALLS GAS COMPANY For)UTILITY DIVISION
Authority To Revise Natural Gas)DOCKET NO. 84.6.29
Prices.)DEFAULT ORDER NO. 5072

On June 5, 1984, Great Falls Gas Company filed with the Montana Public Service Commission, pursuant to jurisdiction established by Section 69-3-101 et seq., MCA, a request to revise its natural gas prices. The proposal would alter the seasonal structure of the rate schedule by shifting the winter season forward by one month. If the proposal is

adopted, lower winter rates would go into effect in December rather than January, and would end in March rather than April.

To maintain existing total revenues, this charge would require that the nonwinter price be increased from \$5.0230 to \$5.0445 per thousand cubic feet of natural gas.

Having considered the request and the documentation furnished by Great Falls
Gas Company in support of its request, the Commission makes the following Findings of
Fact and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. A Notice of Opportunity For Public Hearing was issued on June 13, 1984. The notice was published in the <u>Great Falls Tribune</u> on June 18, 1984. The notice stated that if no hearing was requested by July 9, 1984, an appropriate order may be issued based upon evidence submitted with the application.
 - 2. No request for a hearing was received and no hearing was scheduled.

3. The Commission finds that the Great Falls Gas Company proposal is reasonable and hereby grants approval.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Great Falls Gas Company furnishes natural gas service within the State of Montana and is a "public utility" under the regulatory jurisdiction of the Montana Public Service Commission. MCA 69-3-101.
- 2. The Montana Public Service Commission properly exercises jurisdiction over the Applicant's Montana operations pursuant to Title 69, Chapter 3, MCA.

ORDER

- 1. The Great Falls Gas Company's request to revise the seasonal time periods is hereby GRANTED.
- 2. The revised tariffs for natural gas service are accepted as filed and shall be effective as of the date of this order.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana, this 16th day of July, 1984, by a 4 to 0 vote.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Chairman

HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner

CLYDE JARVIS, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Madeline L. Cottrill

Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request the Commission to reconsider this decision motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See ARM 38.2.4806.